



DARK NIGHTS

3

DEATH METAL



Capullo
Zio fco
Glapión

AGES 13+

SNYDER + CAPULLO + GLAPIÓN + PLASCENCIA



FANDOME FANDOME

A GLOBAL EXPERIENCE

08.22.2020

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From the creative duo behind *New York Times* bestseller *TEEN TITANS: RAVEN*

DARE TO FIND YOUR TRUTH!

TEEN TITANS BEAST BOY

Written by
KAMI GARCIA
Illustrated by
GABRIEL PICOLO



TM & © DC

A NEW GRAPHIC NOVEL
FOR YOUNG ADULTS
ON SALE NOW!



"HEY, KIDDO. UP AND AT 'EM! JUST A FEW MORE HILLS TO TAKE.

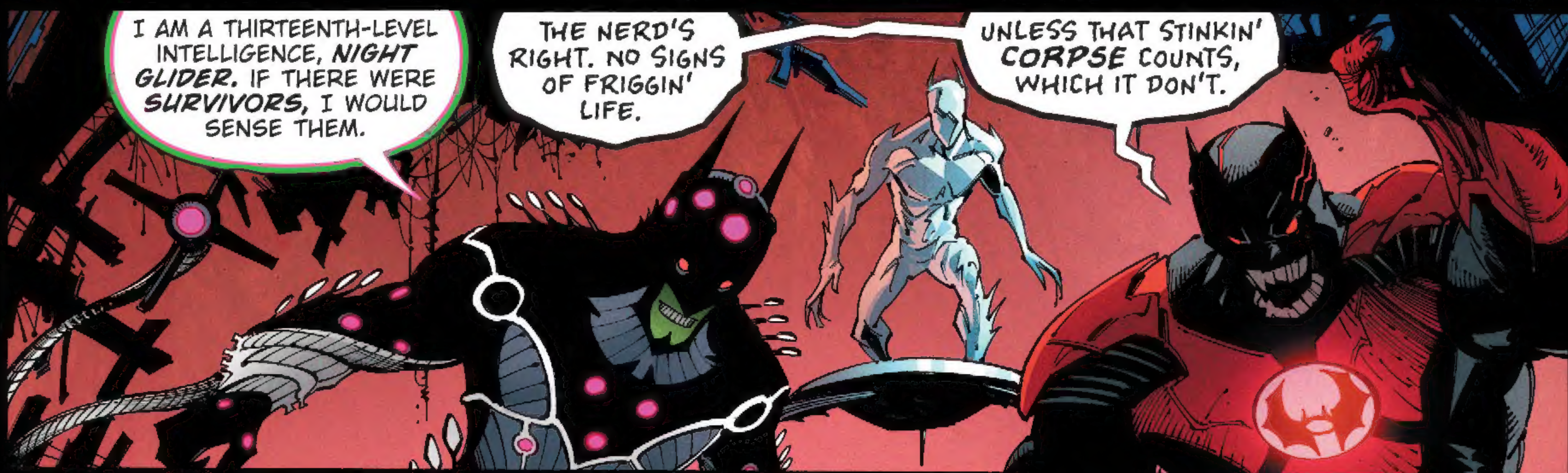
"WHERE WERE WE IN OUR TALE? *NEW APOKOLIPS*, PRISON OF THE REMAINING HEROES, INSIDE THE HEART OF OUR POOR DYING *SUN*.

"YESSIR, WAR TAKES YOU TO STRANGE FRONTIERS. PLACES YOU DIDN'T KNOW EXISTED. UNDER YOUR BOOTS, SURE...



"...BUT ALSO INSIDE YOUR *HEAD*. HELL, THAT'S WHERE YOU'LL COME ACROSS THE STRANGEST FINDS OF ALL."

ANYTHING, COLLECTOR? BATROCITUS?



I AM A THIRTEENTH-LEVEL INTELLIGENCE, *NIGHT GLIDER*. IF THERE WERE *SURVIVORS*, I WOULD SENSE THEM.

THE NERD'S RIGHT. NO SIGNS OF FRIGGIN' LIFE.

UNLESS THAT STINKIN' *CORPSE* COUNTS, WHICH IT DON'T.



MAN, THAT IS ONE *UGLY* PILE OF COWBOY.

WHOA WHOA.



UGLY PILE OF *OUTLAW*, THANK YOU.

AND TO BE FAIR, THE DEAD DO *COUNT*. HELL, I CAN EVEN DO IT BACKWARDS. *WATCH*.



THREE, TWO, ONE...

NO! DON'T D--

DEATH METAL

AN ANTI-CRISIS PART III
PICK UP STYX

BY SCOTT "SLAUGHTER" SNYDER & GREG "GORELORD" CAPULLO



WITH

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SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL AND JOE SHUSTER
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY



THE GREAT DEATH DRIVE





I MEAN IT *COULD* GET TACKY. BATS ON EVERYTHING?

BATS ARE NEVER TACKY.

NICE. YOU SHOULD PRINT THAT ON BUMPER STICKERS.

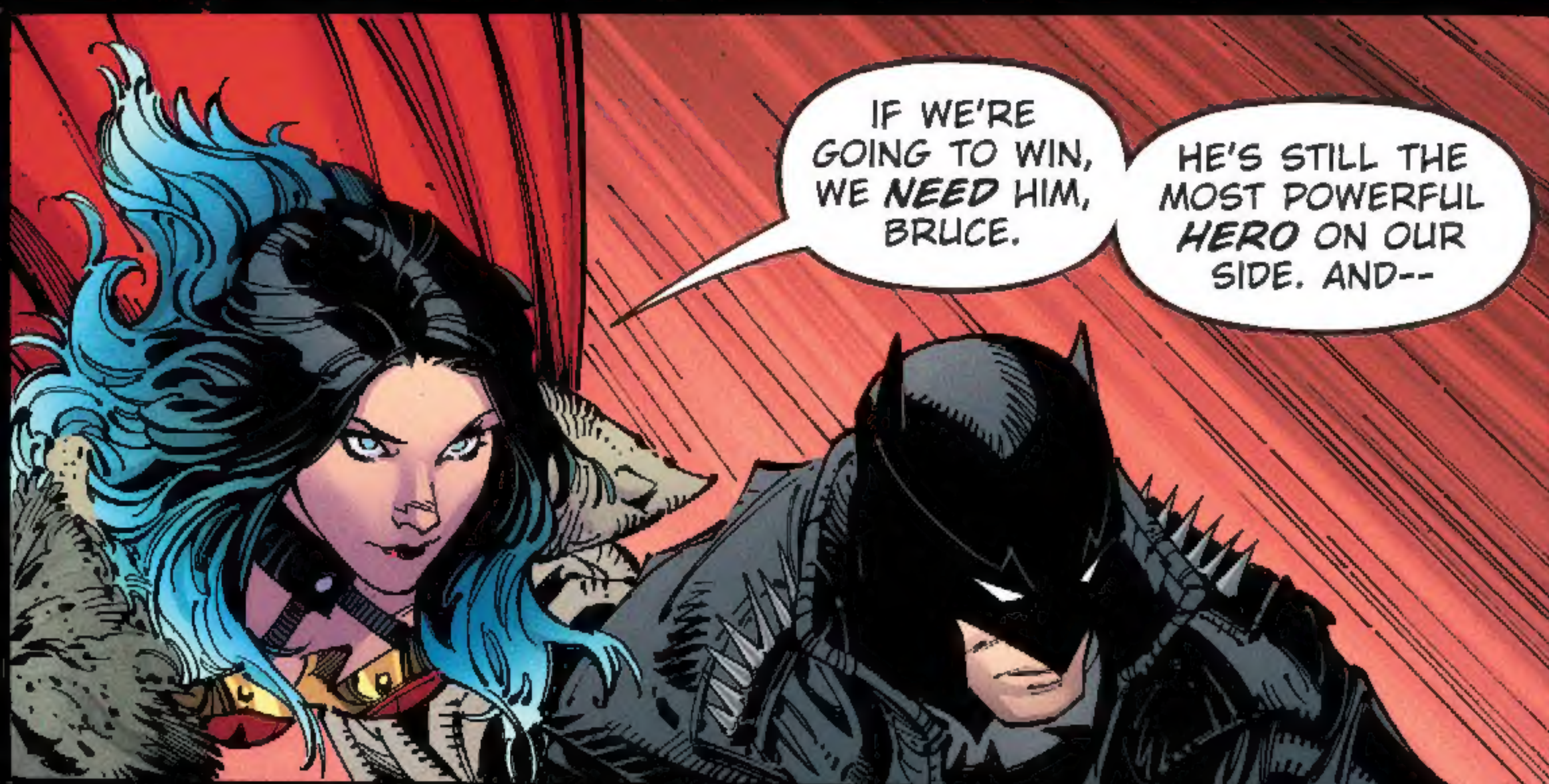
I DID WHILE YOU WERE TALKING.

NOW FOCUS, HARLEEN.



THE *PRISON* SHOULD BE UP AHEAD.

I STILL DON'T LIKE THIS, DIANA.



IF WE'RE GOING TO WIN, WE *NEED* HIM, BRUCE.

HE'S STILL THE MOST POWERFUL *HERO* ON OUR SIDE. AND--



UNH!

SWAMP THING? WHAT IS IT?



I...SENSE A GREAT *DISTURBANCE* IN THE LIFE FORCE BACK ON EARTH. SOMETHING TERRIBLE JUST *WOKE*.

WHAT KIND OF DISTURBANCE?

IT'S *HIM*.



WHATEVER FORM THE BATMAN WHO LAUGHS HAS TAKEN, IT'S JUST BEEN *BORN*.

WE NEED TO GET WHO WE CAME FOR, *NOW*.



"HAS ANYONE EVER TOLD YOU ABOUT THE GREAT *DEATH DRIVE*?"

YOU LISTENING, KAL-EL? LET ME GET YOUR ATTENTION. TURQUOISE, GO.

AAAGH!

IMPRESSIVE, EH? SHADES OF KRYPTONITE YOU NEVER KNEW EXISTED, BROUGHT FROM THE DARK MULTIVERSE, AND INFUSED IN THE GLASS PANELING.

THE BEAMS WILL SOON FINISH KILLING YOUR KRYPTONIAN CELLS. ONCE THAT HAPPENS, ANTI-LIFE WILL CONSUME YOU. YOU CAN CONTINUE TO FIGHT THE PROCESS, OR YOU CAN SURRENDER TO THIS BRILLIANT, INESCAPABLE MACHINE, CARE OF MISTER MIRACLE HERE.

HE PROBED MY MIND. I'M SO SORRY, CLARK.

DON'T BE SORRY. YOU'RE HELPING HIM REALIZE HIS DESTINY.

LET ME ASK YOU, KAL. DO YOU EVER WONDER WHY NEARLY ALL DARK MULTIVERSE VERSIONS OF YOU ARE SUPERMEN WHO *RULE* HUMANITY? TYRANT SUPERMEN?

THEY'RE MY FEARS COME TO LIFE, MONSTER. NOTHING MORE.

AND YET IN MANY WAYS, AREN'T OUR FEARS MORE *REAL* THAN THE PERSON WE PRESENT? OUR FEARS *ARE* WHO WE ARE, KAL.

WE HUMANS, WE FEAR *DEATH*. WE FEAR OUR OWN INSIGNIFICANCE. IT'S WHY IN THE END, UNATTENDED, WE ARE DESTINED TO DESTROY OURSELVES.

IT'S WHY NEARLY ALL DARK BATMEN ARE DESTROYERS.

AT HIS CORE, BATMAN FEARS *HUMAN* NATURE.

BUT YOU...FEAR WHAT WILL HAPPEN IF YOU DO NOT *CONTROL* IT.

BECAUSE DEEP DOWN YOU KNOW...

...THE ONLY WAY TO BE HUMANITY'S SAVIOR IS TO RULE US, AND REMOVE OUR FEAR. AND WHAT BETTER WAY THAN WITH THE ANTI-LIFE EQUATION.

THIS IS YOUR TRUE DESTINY, KAL-EL. YOUR FATE'S TRAJECTORY... FROM KRYPTON, A PLANET DOOMED BY UNCHECKED FEAR, TO EARTH, A PLANET YOU CAN *STILL* SAVE.

SURRENDER TO IT AND I WILL HAND POWER TO YOU AND RETIRE JUST AS I DID ON MY WORLD.

I'LL GO UP, UP, AND AWAY INTO DEEP SPACE AND YOU WILL RULE.

SO DO IT! EMBRACE THE *TRUTH!* AND--

VRRRR



EXCUSE
ME, DID SOMEONE
HERE ORDER SOME
TRUTH?

LIKE A
HUGE, STEAMING
HELPING?

RELEASE HIM,
DARKFATHER.
NOW.

HEH. AND
WHAT, YOU'LL
SPARE ME?

WELL NO
ONE SAID
THAT.

DEMONS!
ATTACK!

HOLY KILL,
BATMAN!

KILL
THEM
ALL!

HOLY
KILL!



HOLY
K--

OW.

BATMAN,
FREE SUPERMAN!
DARKFATHER
IS MINE!



BRUCE!
THANK GOD
YOU'RE
ALIV--

NO TIME,
CLARK! SCOTT!
HOW DO I GET
HIM OUT?!

YOU...YOU
CAN'T! THE MACHINE
HAS ALREADY KILLED
TOO MANY OF HIS
KRYPTONIAN
CELLS.

IF HIS
FEET COME OFF
THE PEDALS, THE GLASS
PANELS ABOVE WILL BLAST
HIM WITH **ANTI-LIFE** AND
THOSE DEAD CELLS WILL
MUTATE, CHANGING HIM
INTO A **DARKSEID**
PERMANENTLY.



BRUCE,
LISTEN TO
ME, SAVE
YOURS--

SHUT
UP. I HAVE
AN IDEA.

NOT SO
FAST.

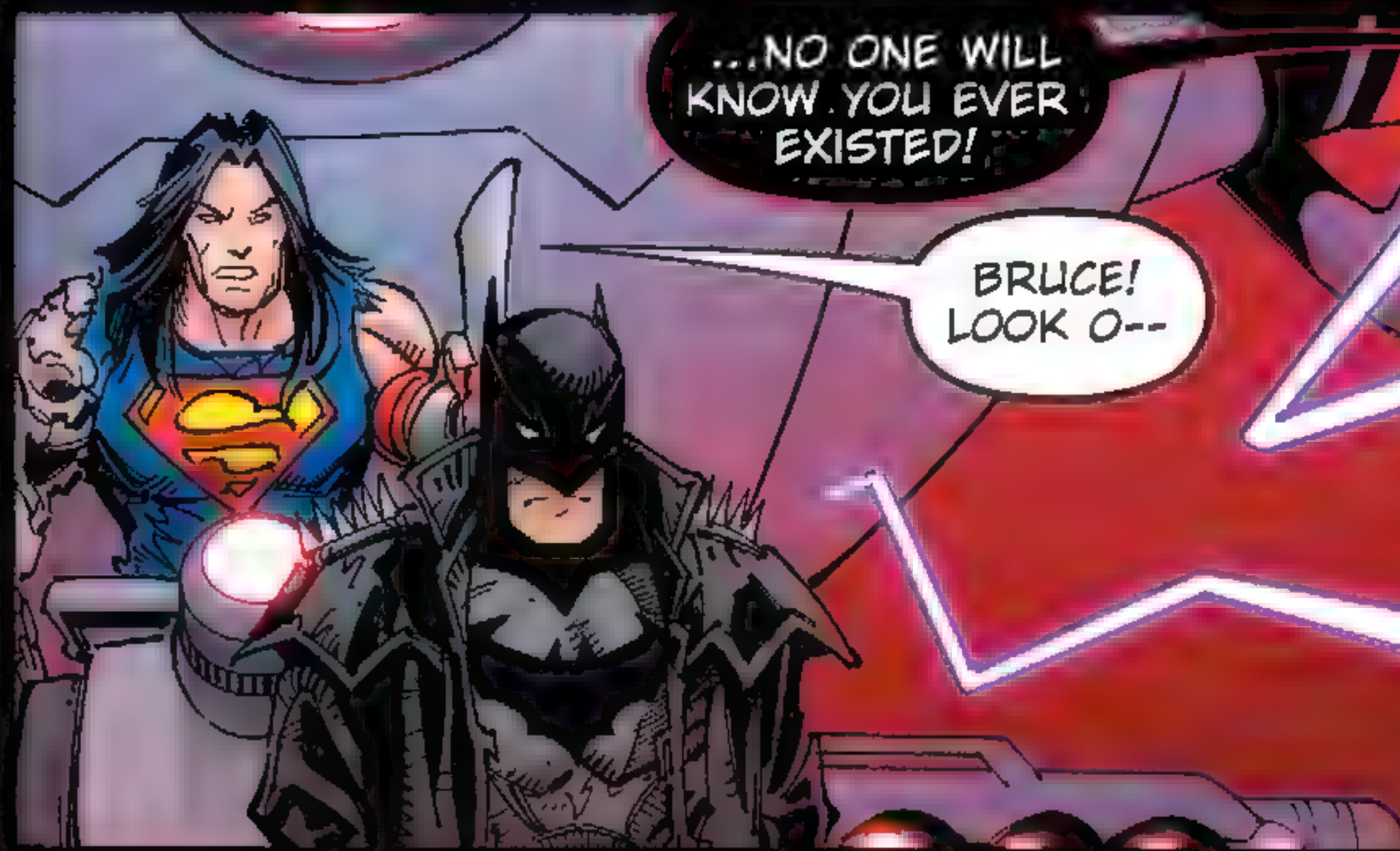


UNH!



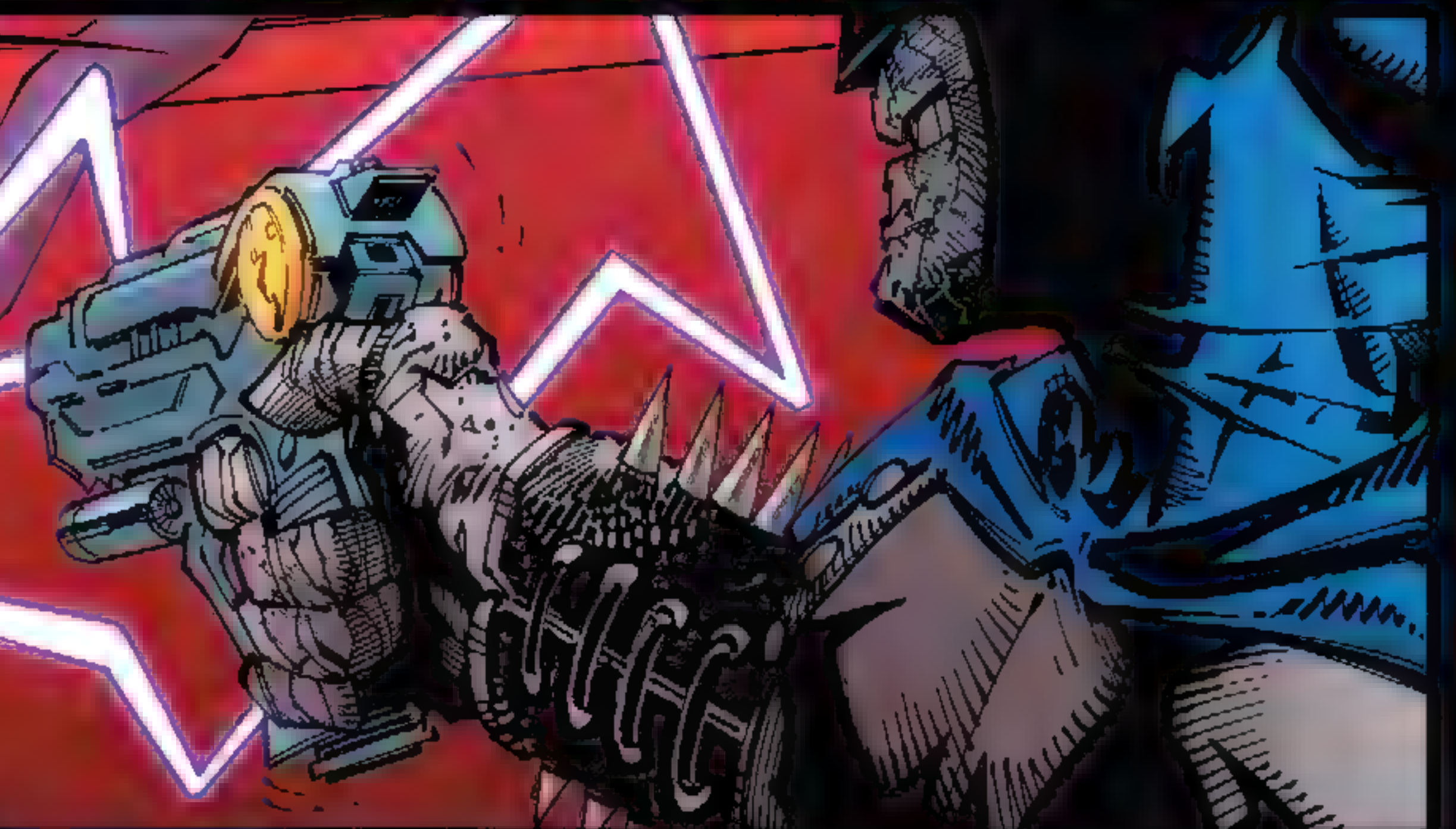
REMEMBER THIS, BATMAN? IT'S MY OWN, BETTER VERSION OF THE *GUN* DARKSEID HIMSELF USED TO SEND YOU BACK IN TIME DURING THE LAST CRISIS.

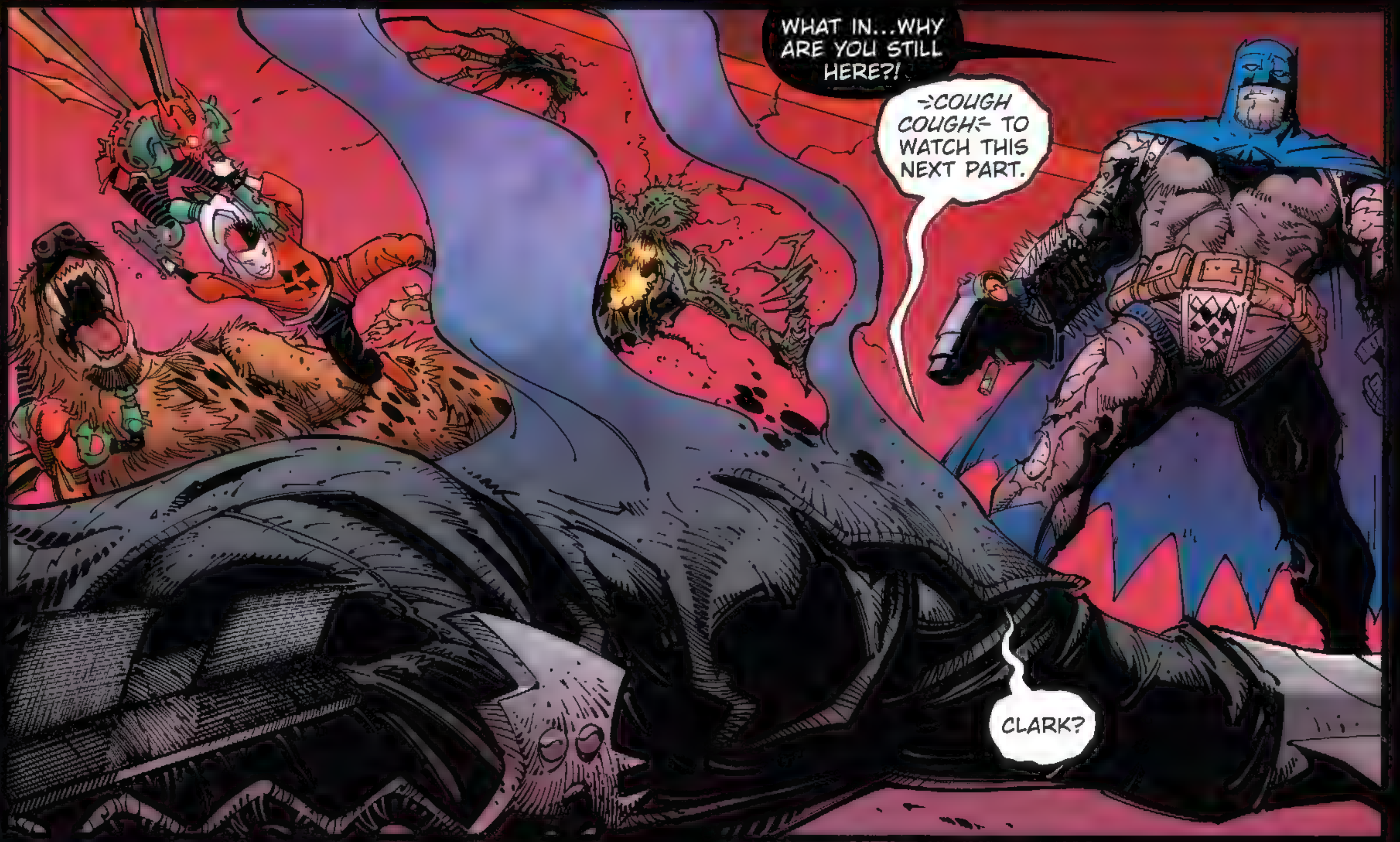
BUT I'VE TUNED TO YOUR LIFE FORCE SO IT WON'T JUST SEND YOU BACK...IT'LL *ERASE* YOU FROM HISTORY ALTOGETHER. BEINGS PULLED FROM THE *DARK* WILL REMAIN UNAFFECTED, BUT YOUR FRIENDS, YOUR PEOPLE...

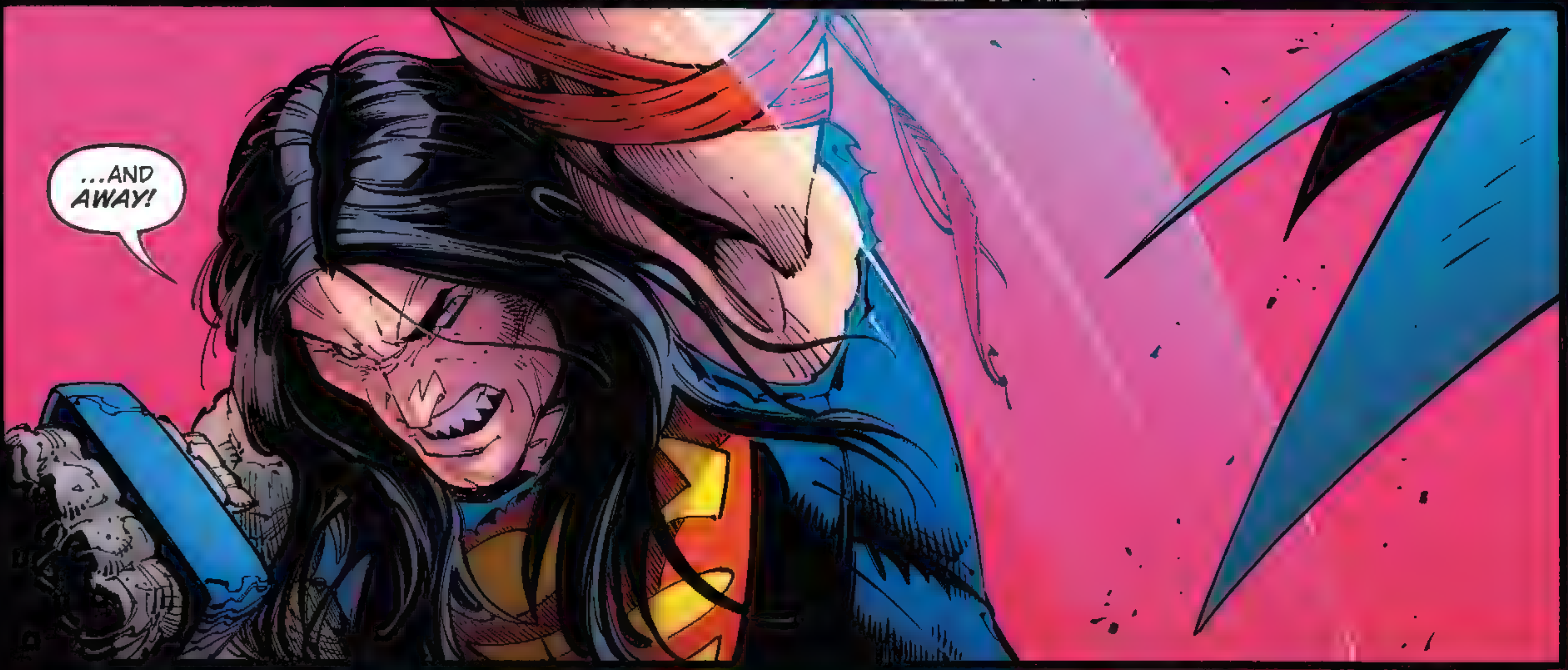


...NO ONE WILL KNOW YOU EVER EXISTED!

BRUCE! LOOK O--



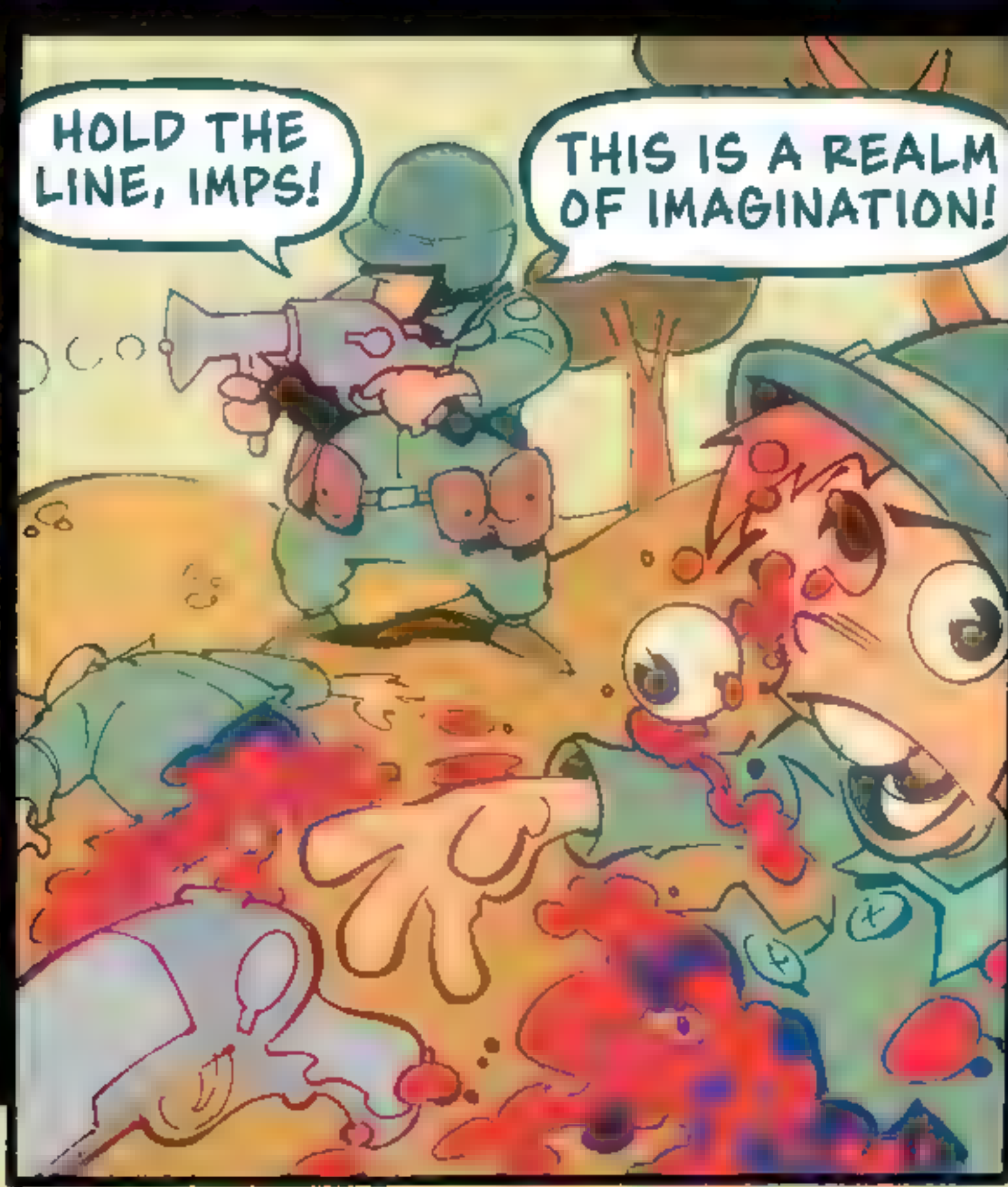
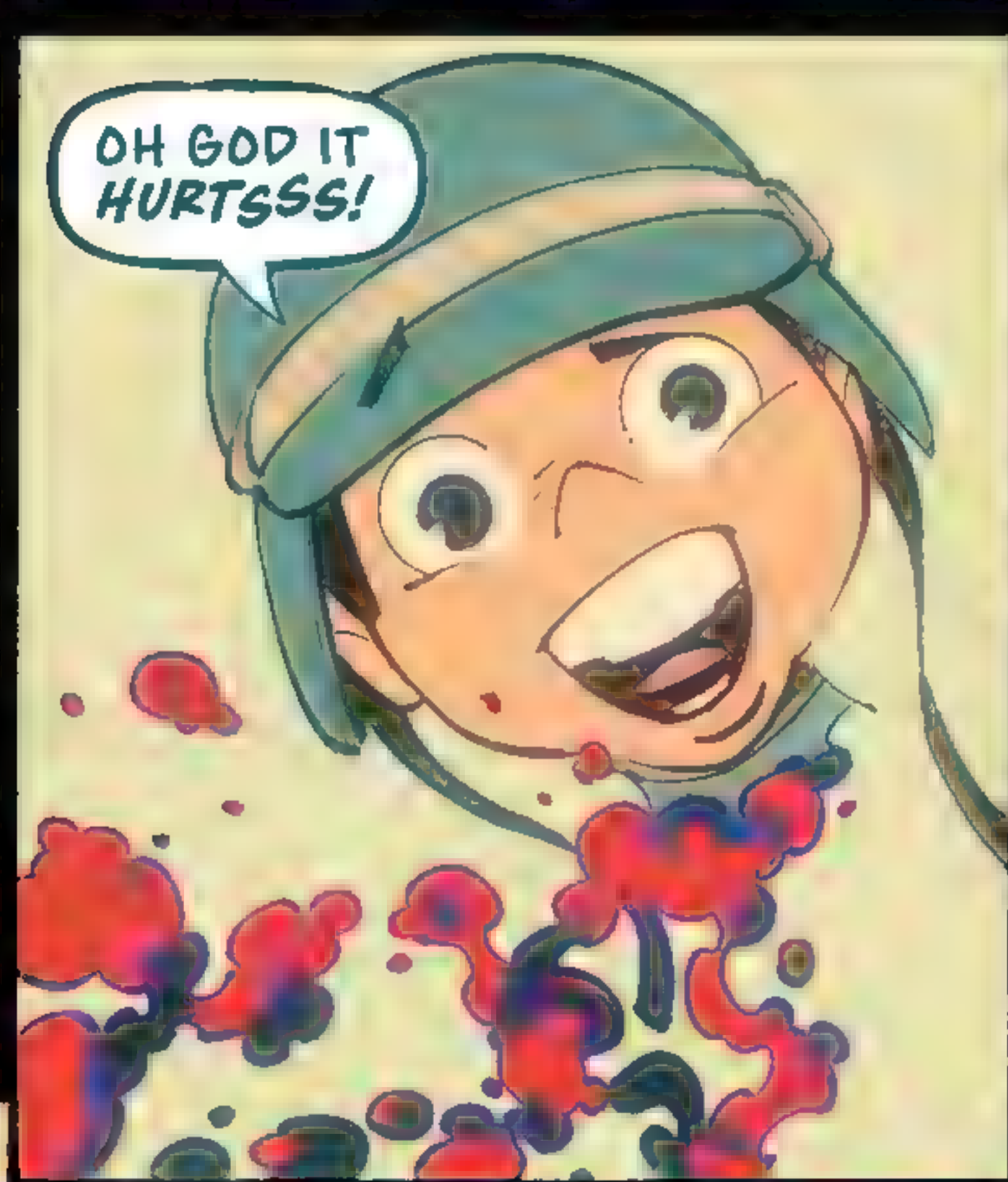




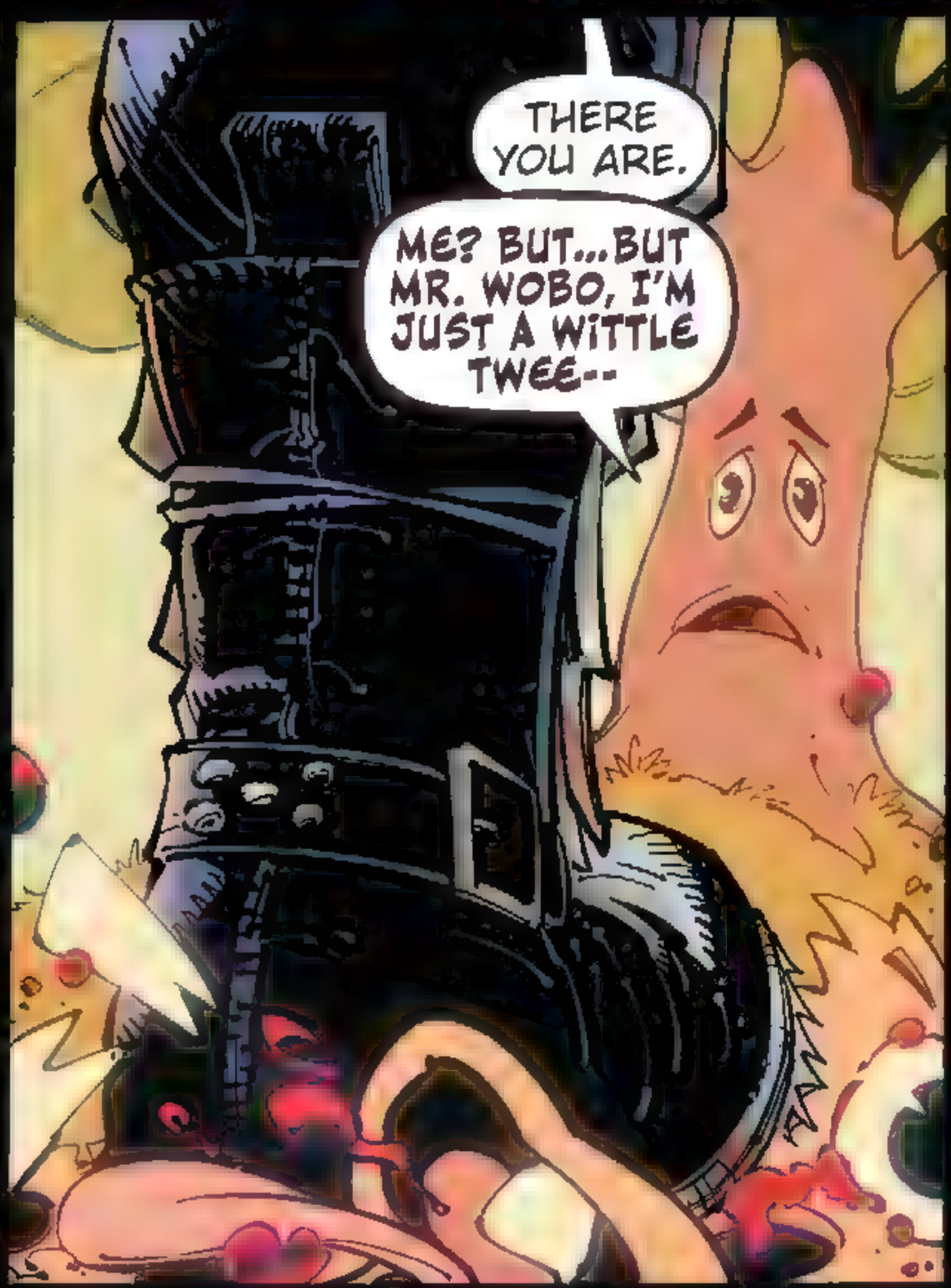




HAPPY PLACE



THE FIFTH DIMENSION.



THE CRYPT OF HEROES.

"...NO HIDING FROM THE MAIN MAN."

FATE,
WHAT IS THAT
NOISE?!

I...I DON'T
UNDERSTAND, THIS
BUNKER SHOULD BE
PROTECTED!

PROTECTED
FROM WHAT?
DOC!

SOMEONE...
SOMEONE IS COMING
THROUGH!

GOOD
MORNING,
ALL!



AND WHO ARE YOU SUPPOSED TO BE, KID?

ME? I'M THE **ROBIN KING**, JAY! GOOD TO MEET YOU!

NICE GETUP. THE BELT IS A CHOICE.

WHY *THANK* YOU, BARRY! WORKING ON IT. IS SORT OF MY *HAPPY PLACE*, YOU KNOW? IT SURE TOOK ME A WHILE TO MAKE, *BELIEVE* YOU ME! SEE, THE COMPARTMENTS?

THEY CONTAIN WAYS OF KILLING *EVERY* SINGLE HERO IN THE WORLD!

NEAT, HUH?

THIS ONE HERE...IT'S FOR YOU. SEE, ON MY WORLD, I DUG UP YOUR *DEAD MOM*, COVERED HER REMAINS IN THIS GREAT SPEED FORCE-CANCELING TOXIN THAT LIQUEFIES YOUR MUSCLES. SUPER PAINFUL. SUCH COOL STUFF.

I STUFFED HER ROTTING CORPSE INTO A *FLASH RING*.



HER ARMS SORT OF FLING OUT LIKE SHE'S TRYING TO HUG YOU WHEN SHE POPS OUT! WANT TO SEE?



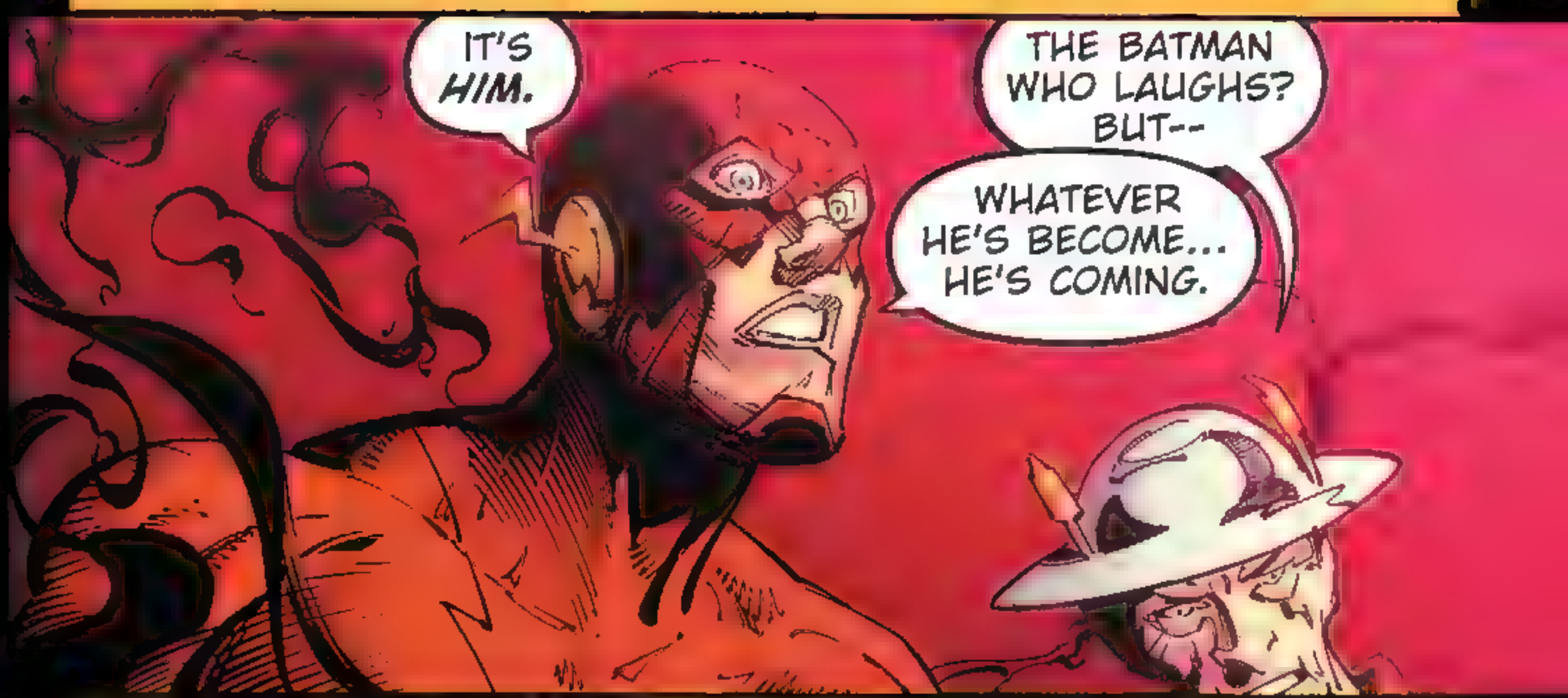
DO...DO NOT LISTEN TO THIS FIEND!

AW, YOU'RE RIGHT, KENT. I'M SORRY. I MEAN I'M NOT HERE TO KILL YOU.

I'M HERE TO WATCH *HIM* DO IT.



HIM WHO? WHAT THE HELL IS THAT LITTLE PUNK TALKING--



IT'S *HIM*.

THE BATMAN WHO LAUGHS? BUT--

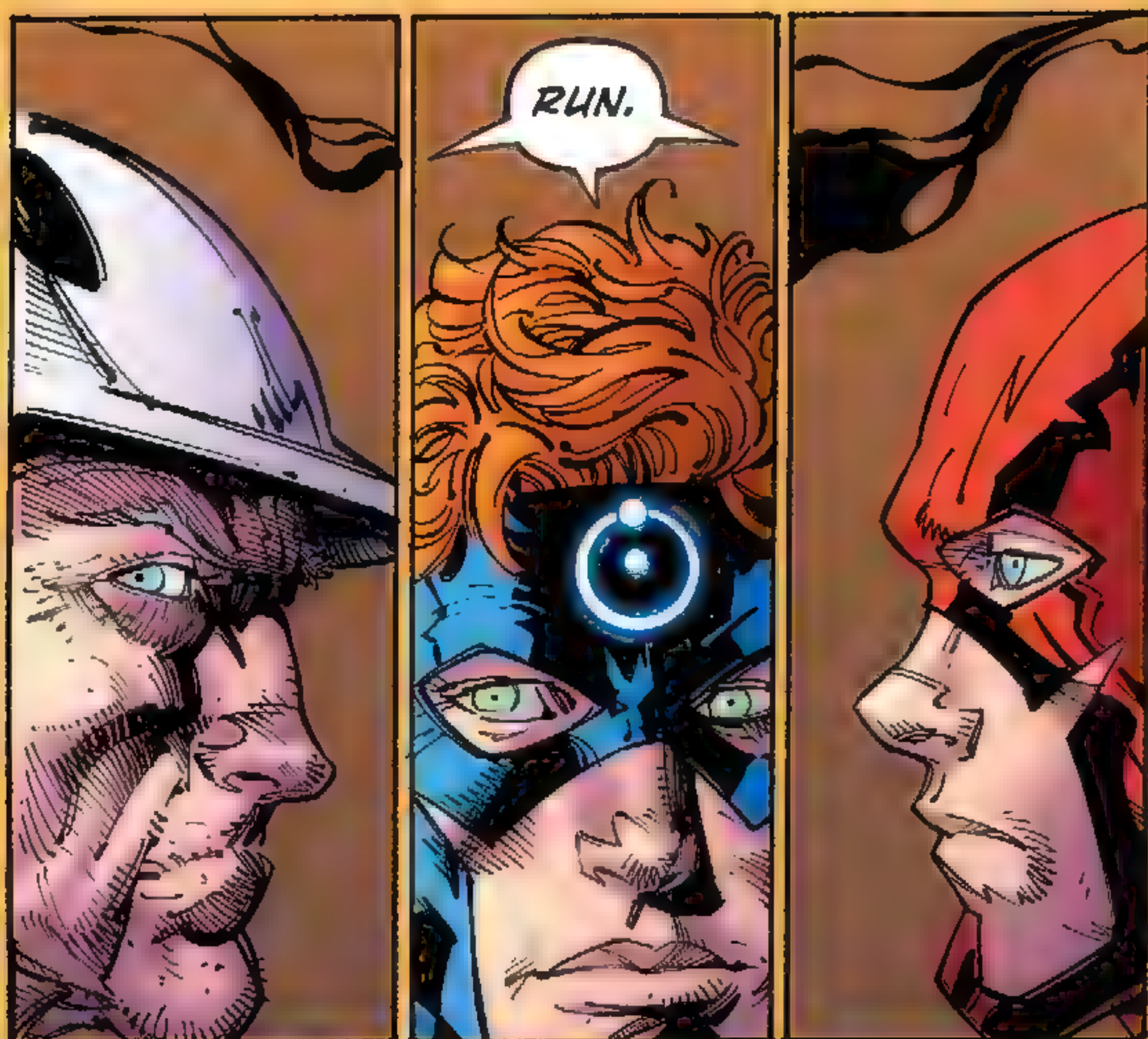
WHATEVER HE'S BECOME... HE'S COMING.

LISTEN, IF HE'S
HERE, HE'S AFTER
YOUR POWER, WALLY.
WE CAN'T LET HIM GET
IT. WHATEVER HE IS,
I SENSE HE'S STILL
RELATIVELY
WEAK.

IF HE
CATCHES YOU AND
ABSORBS WHAT'S LEFT OF
THE **ANTI-CRISIS ENERGY**
INSIDE YOUR BODY, HE'LL
BECOME POWERFUL ENOUGH
TO KILL PERPETUA...HE'LL
BE UNSTOPPABLE.

WHAT
CAN WE DO,
THOUGH?

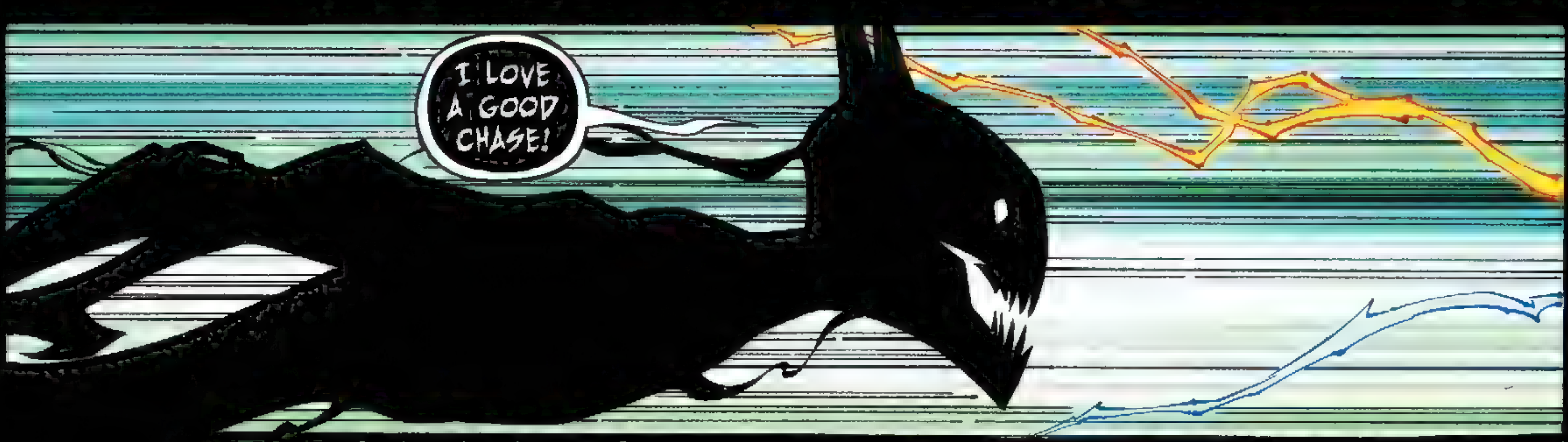
ONLY
ONE
THING.





HAHA! GREETINGS,
SPEEDSTERS!
PLEASE, GIVE IT
YOUR BEST!

RUN.

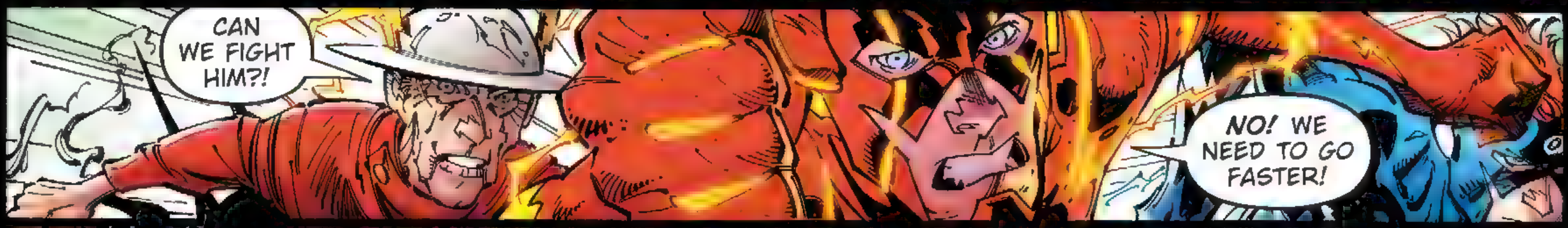


I LOVE
A GOOD
CHASE!



HE'S TOO
FAST!

THE **SPEED FORCE**
IS ALREADY WEAK!
WE COULD **BURN IT**
OUT IF WE KEEP
THIS UP!



CAN
WE FIGHT
HIM?!

NO! WE
NEED TO GO
FASTER!



WE NEED
TO COMBINE
OUR POWERS...
EVERYONE, FAST
AS YOU CAN,
NOW!

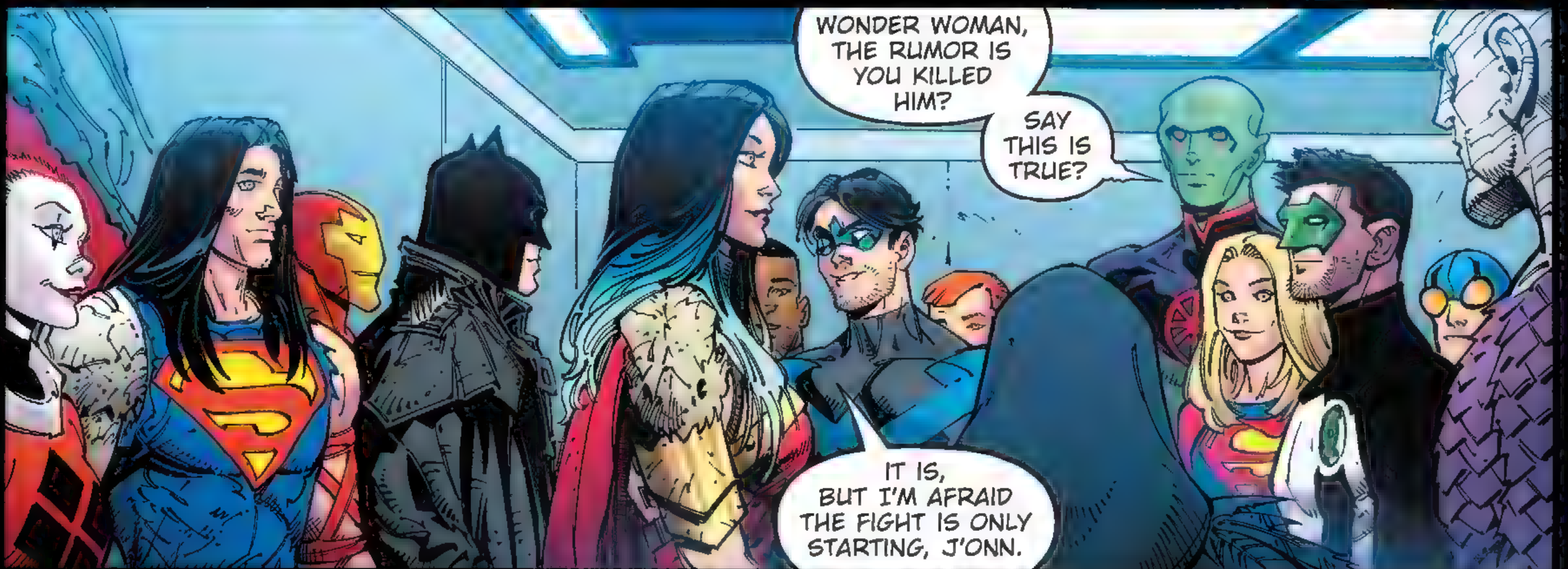


GO ON
THEN! YOU
CAN'T RUN
FOREVER!

AND
WHEN YOU SLOW,
EVEN A FRACTION,
I'LL BE RIGHT
BEHIND YOU!



MEMENTO MORI





WE'VE LOST MANY WORLDS, DIANA. TOO MANY ALLIES TO COUNT. WHAT'S THE PLAN?

THE PLAN IS TO GET THEM BACK.

TO GET IT ALL BACK.

"RIGHT NOW, PERPETUA IS DRAWING HER ENERGY FROM CRISIS WORLDS IN THE DARK MULTIVERSE.



"THE ENERGY IS TRANSMITTED UP FROM THE DARK AND OUT TO HUMAN ANTENNAS AROUND THE MULTIVERSE, WHERE IT IS AMPLIFIED AND SENT TO PERPETUA HERSELF.

"WHAT WE NEED TO DO IS REDIRECT THAT ENERGY TO ONE OF OUR OWN.

"SOMEONE WHO HAS THE POWER TO KILL PERPETUA AND THEN HELP US RE-CREATE THE MULTIVERSE AS IT SHOULD BE.

"THAT SOMEONE IS WALLY WEST.

"JOHN STEWART, YOU LEAD THE LANTERNS, TAKE DOWN HER ANTENNAS ON THE REMAINING EARTHS. MARTIAN MANHUNTER, YOU AND YOUR TEAM GO AFTER HER THRONE. THE FLASHES WILL KEEP WALLY SAFE.

"MEANWHILE, MY TEAM AND I WILL SNEAK INTO THE DARK MULTIVERSE THROUGH THE PORTAL BENEATH CASTLE BAT AND REDIRECT THE CRISIS ENERGY TO WALLY."

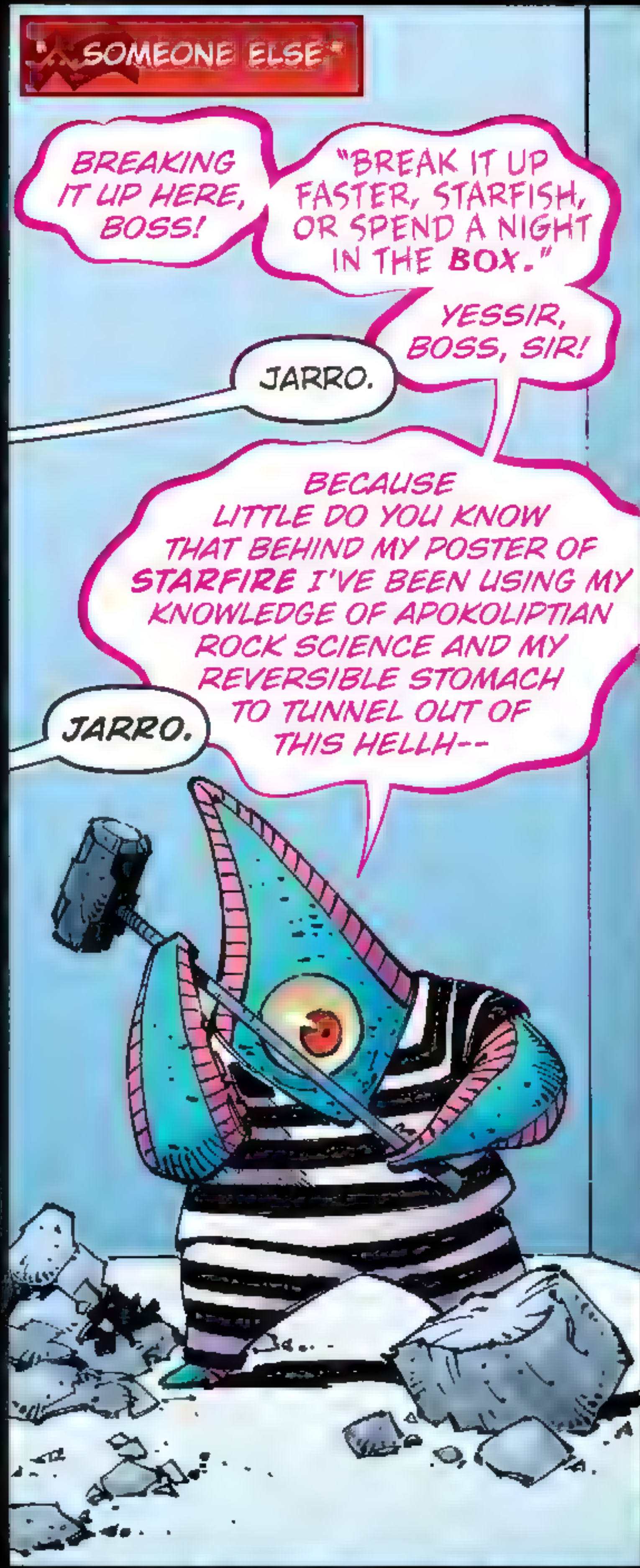
"SNEAK INTO CASTLE BAT? HOW DO YOU PLAN ON DOING THAT?"



THAT'S WHY WE CAME UP
HERE. TO ENLIST THE HELP
OF THE **MOST POWERFUL**
HERO AMONG US.

WAIT...YOU ARE
TALKING ABOUT
SUPERMAN.
RIGHT?

NO.
I'M TALKING
ABOUT...



SOMEONE ELSE*

BREAKING
IT UP HERE,
BOSS!

"BREAK IT UP
FASTER, STARFISH,
OR SPEND A NIGHT
IN THE BOX."

YESSIR,
BOSS, SIR!

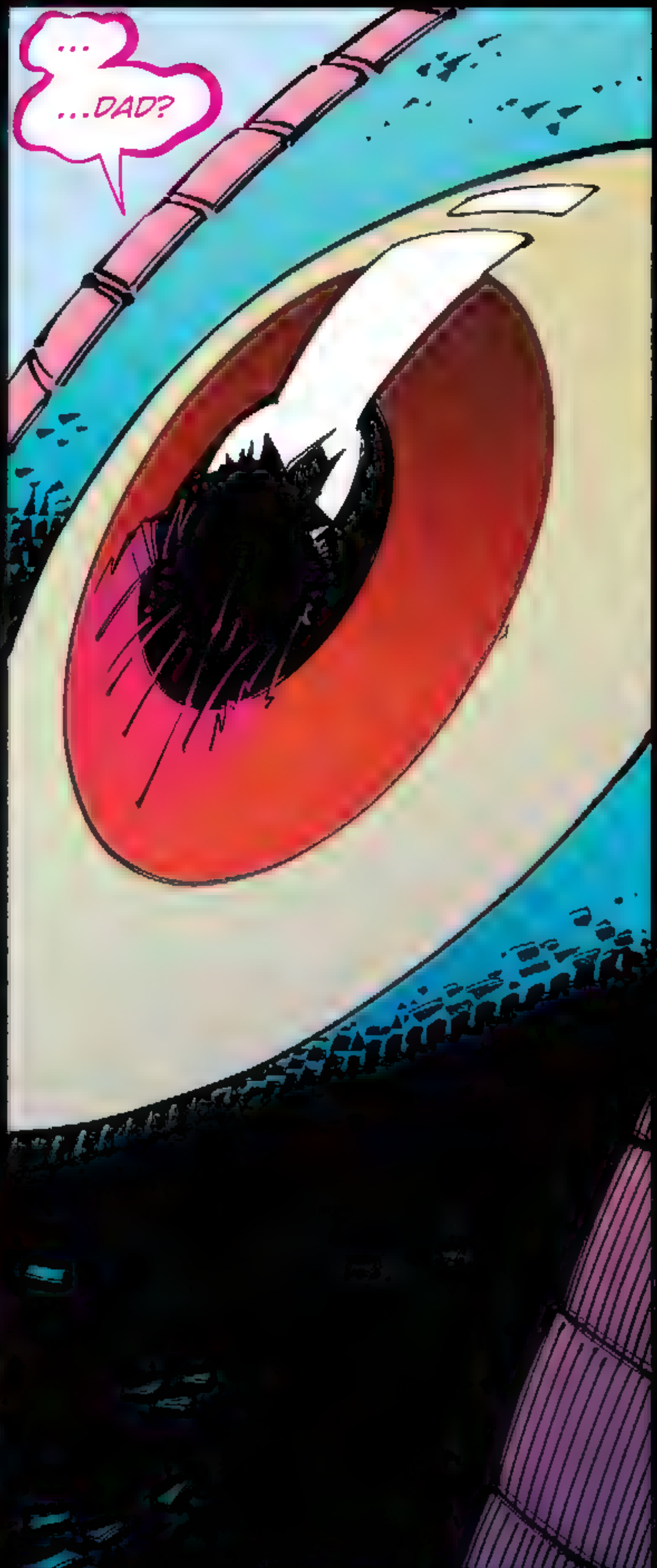
JARRO.

BECAUSE
LITTLE DO YOU KNOW
THAT BEHIND MY POSTER OF
STARFIRE I'VE BEEN USING MY
KNOWLEDGE OF APOKOLIPTIAN
ROCK SCIENCE AND MY
REVERSIBLE STOMACH
TO TUNNEL OUT OF
THIS HELLH--

JARRO.



HEY,
KID.



...DAD?



ALL
RIGHT, ALL
RIGHT. NOT IN
FRONT OF
CLARK.



=HUFF HUFF=
WAIT, WHAT'D I
MISS? WHY'S BATS
HUGGING A
STARFISH?*

*SEE JUSTICE LEAGUE FOR WHY
BATMAN IS HUGGING A STARFISH.
OR, BETTER YET, JUST MAKE UP
YOUR OWN REASON. --MARIE



JARRO IS THE MOST POWERFUL **PSYCHIC BEING** IN THE UNIVERSE.

HE WILL BE ABLE TO **PSYCHICALLY BLOCK** THE DARK KNIGHTS AND THE BATMAN WHO LAUGHS HIMSELF FROM DETECTING WHAT ME AND MY TEAM ARE DOING.

HERE. THERE'S SOMETHING ON YOUR FACE.

THAT'S MY FACE.

WITH HIS HELP, **SUPERMAN, BATMAN,** AND I WILL RE-ENTER THE **DARK**, AND GET THE ENERGY NEEDED TO RESTART THE MULTIVERSE.

RESTART THE MULTIVERSE?

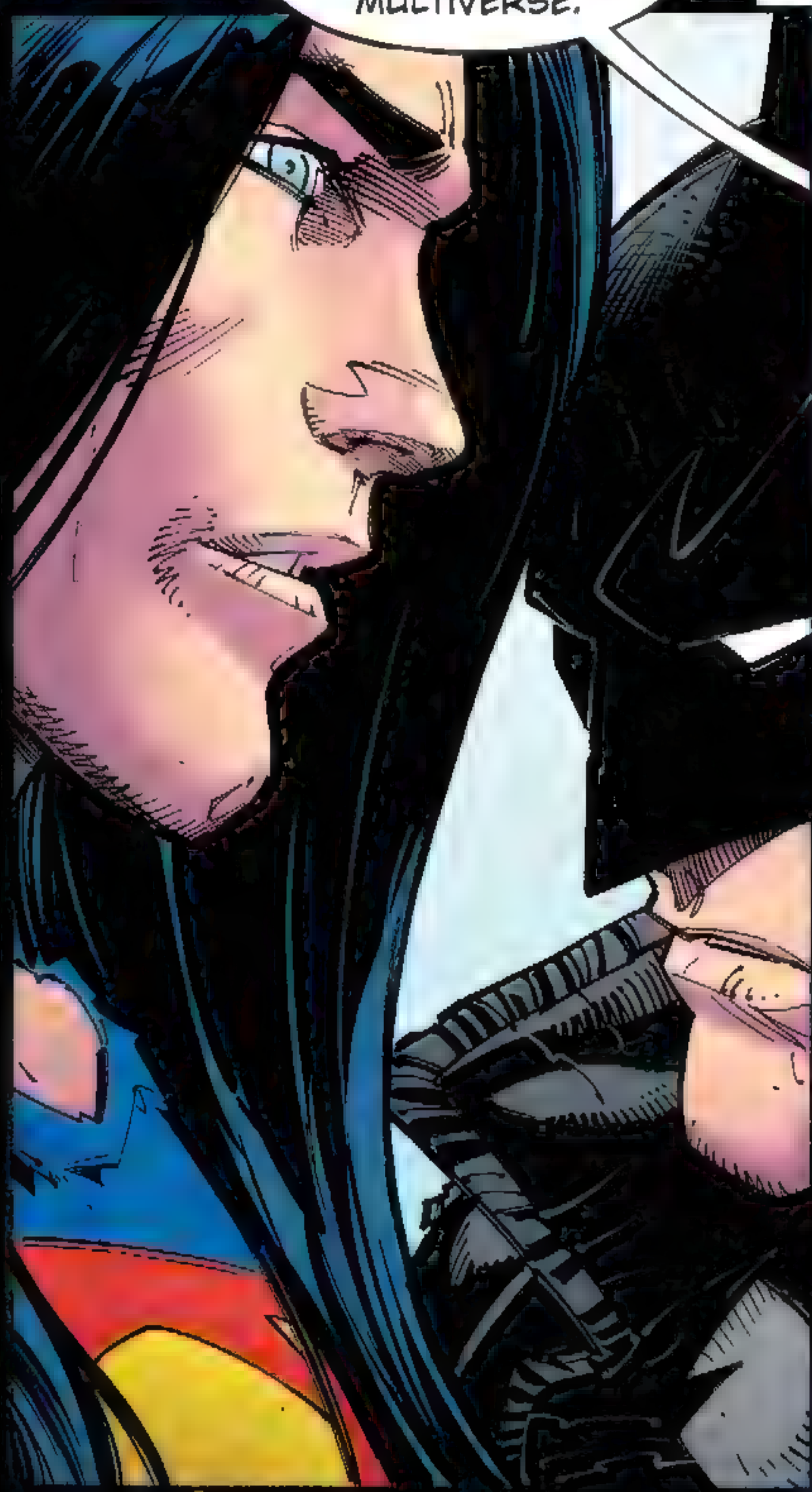
I KNOW. AND I KNOW **ALL THIS** IS THE RESULT OF OUR CHOICES AND THE CHOICES OF THOSE WE FAILED.

BUT HEAR ME WHEN I SAY REGARDLESS OF BLAME OR CAUSE, WHAT THIS UNIVERSE HAS BECOME...

...NO ONE WANTS THIS. NO ONE.

AND I WILL NOT LET IT STAND. TODAY, WE CAN REJECT OUR FATE. WE CAN REJECT **DEATH** ITSELF AND GIVE THIS UNIVERSE A SECOND CHANCE. BUT ONLY IF WE WORK TOGETHER.

ARE YOU IN?





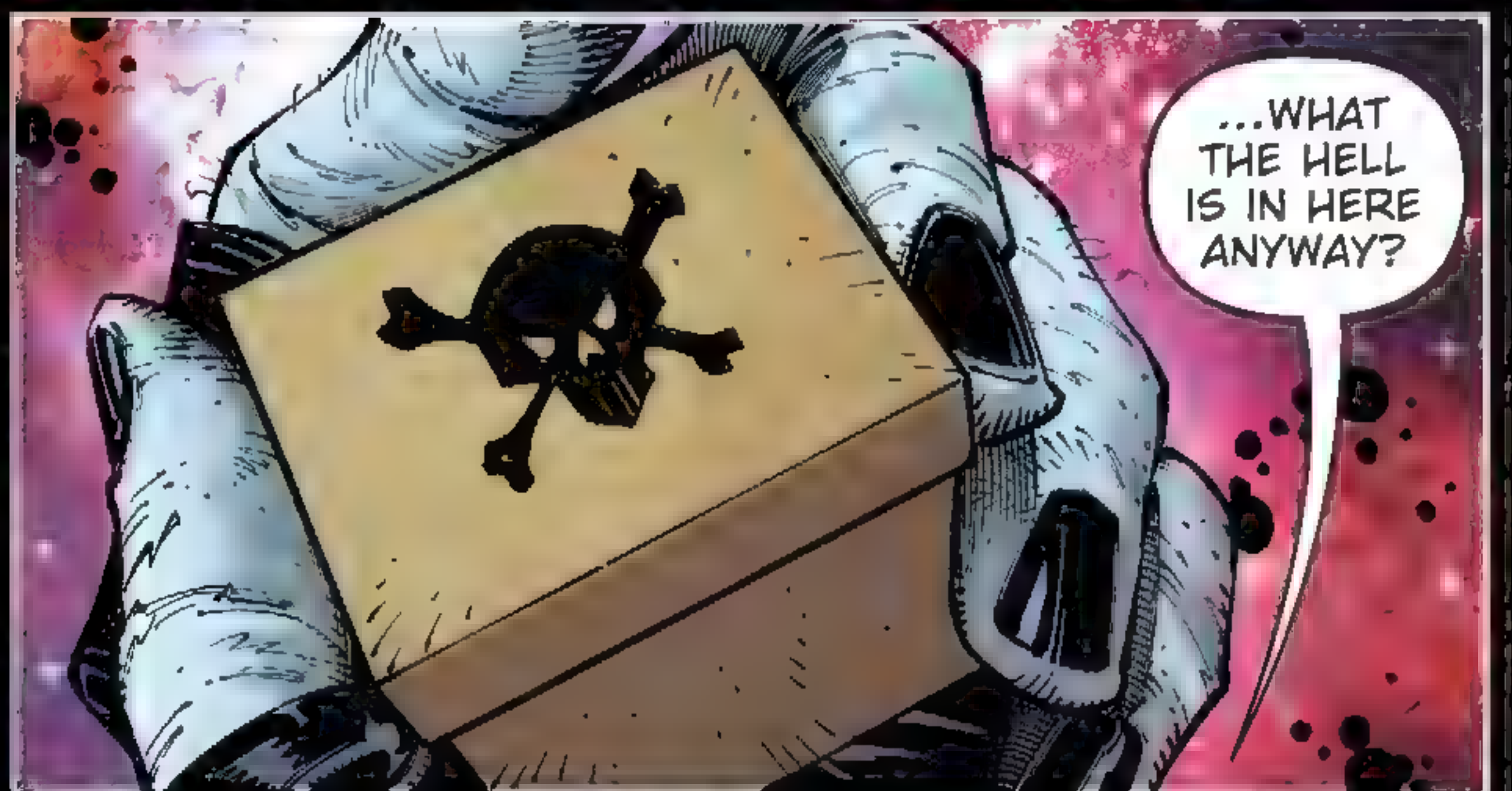
YOU HAVE IT?
THE FINAL
BOX?!

YOU
GOTTA
ASK?



GOOD. NOW
THAT ALL FIVE
ARE COLLECTED,
WE CAN MAKE
OUR MOVE.

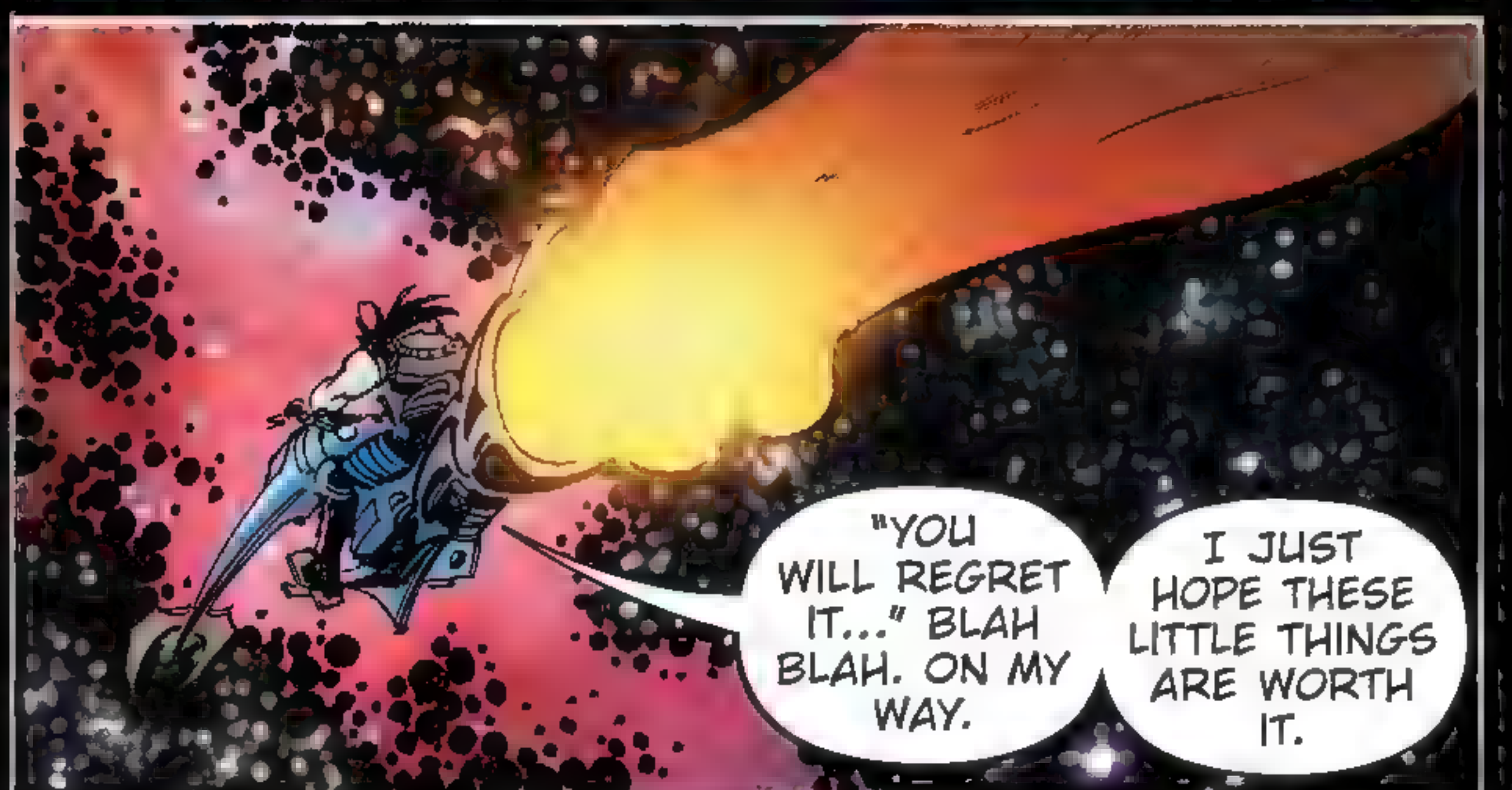
TELL ME,
CHIEF...



...WHAT
THE HELL
IS IN HERE
ANYWAY?

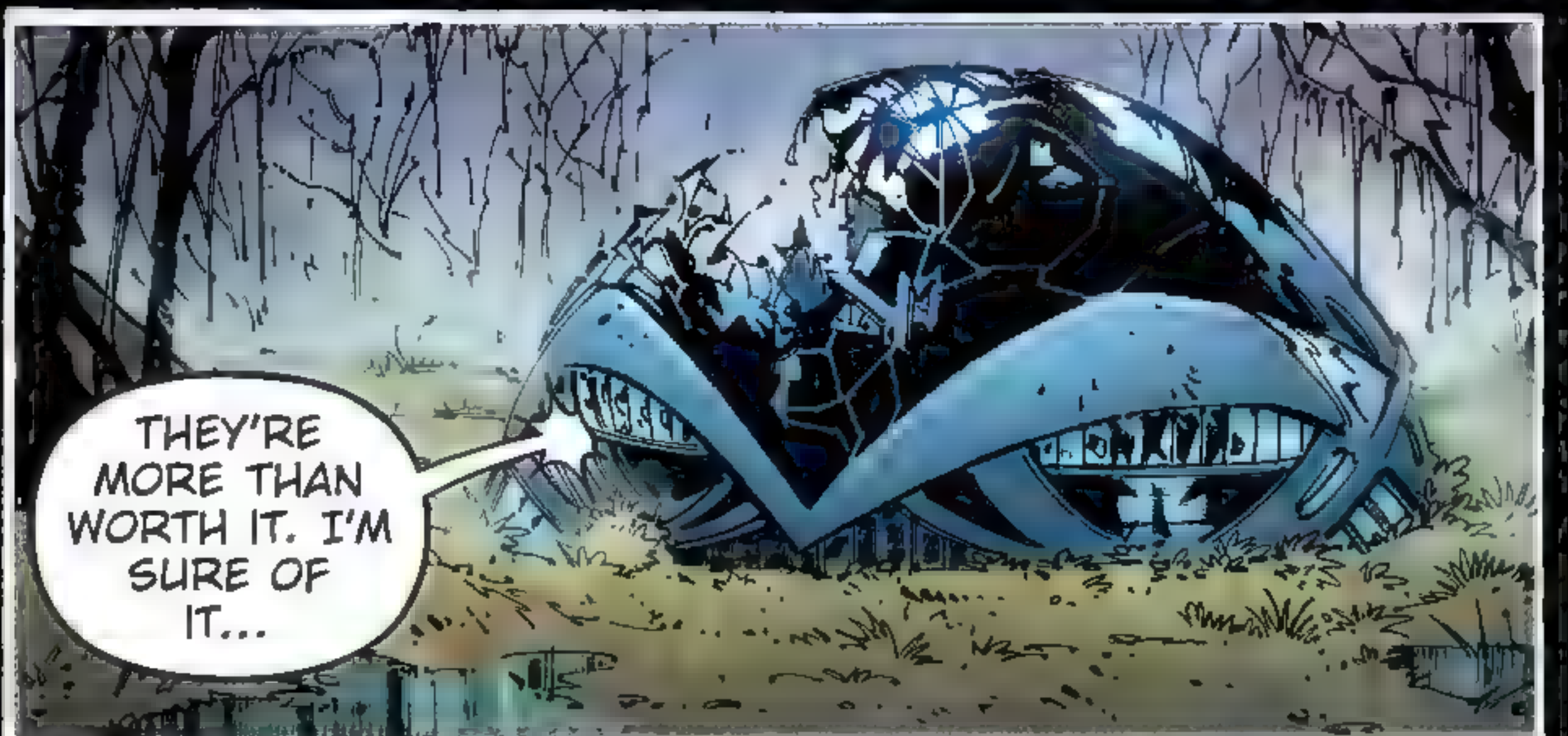


UH-UH,
MY CZARNIAN
FRIEND. OPEN
IT TOO SOON,
AND YOU WILL
REGRET IT.



"YOU
WILL REGRET
IT..." BLAH
BLAH. ON MY
WAY.

I JUST
HOPE THESE
LITTLE THINGS
ARE WORTH
IT.



THEY'RE
MORE THAN
WORTH IT. I'M
SURE OF
IT...

...AS
SURE AS MY
NAME IS

**LEX
LUTHOR.**

AND IN THOSE
BOXES ARE THE
DEATH METAL, AND
WITH THEM, I WILL
CHANGE THE STORY
OF THIS UNIVERSE,
ONCE AND FOR
ALL.

TO BE CONTINUED

EXPLORE THE EVIL NEW WORLD ORDER!

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BECKY CLOONAN • VITA AYALA • CHIP ZDARSKY
CHRISTOPHER PRIEST**

**ART BY DOUG MAHNKE • BECKY CLOONAN • EDUARDO RISSO
KHARY RANDOLPH • DAN PANOSIAN**

COVER BY YASMINE PUTRI



DARK NIGHTS
DEATH
METAL

GUIDEBOOK

NEW ONE-SHOT • AUGUST





DARK NIGHTS: DEATH METAL CHECKLIST

The already-massive scale of *Dark Nights: Death Metal* continues to build this month with two star-studded one-shots: *Dark Nights: Death Metal Legends of the Dark Knights* #1 and *Dark Nights: Death Metal Guidebook* #1.

The tempo picks up even further this fall with more specials and the Justice League getting in on the action. Here's how all the metal mayhem fits together.

JUNE

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal* #1

JULY

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal* #2



Dark Nights: Death Metal Legends of the Dark Knights #1
cover by Kyle Hotz and Alejandro Sanchez

AUGUST

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal Legends of the Dark Knights* #1
Learn how each of the Dark Knights of the Metalverse became what they are... including the origin of the Robin King, the Batmobeast, and...Batmanasaurus Rex?!

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal* #3

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal Guidebook* #1
Earth is shrouded in darkness; this is the guidebook to the new world order and its evil leaders...a diary, written by a shrouded figure.

SEPTEMBER

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal Trinity Crisis* #1
Two words: reunion tour. Superman is free, and he launches an attack with Batman and Wonder Woman.

👉 *Justice League* #53, "Doom Metal Part 1"
Their most desperate mission: free the Legion of Doom!

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal Speed Metal* #1
Wally West's Dr. Manhattan powers make him a target—but he's got the fastest backup alive.

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal Multiverse's End* #1
Heroes from multiple worlds make their last stand, including President Superman...and Captain Carrot?

OCTOBER

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal* #4

👉 *Justice League* #54, "Doom Metal Part 2"

👉 *Justice League* #55, "Doom Metal Part 3"

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal Robin King* #1

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal Rise of the New God* #1

NOVEMBER

👉 *Justice League* #56, "Doom Metal Part 4"

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal Infinite Hour Exxxtreme!*

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal* #5

👉 *Justice League* #57, "Doom Metal Part 5"

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal The Multiverse Who Laughs* #1

DECEMBER

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal The Secret Origin* #1

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal The Last Stories of the DCU* #1

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal* #6

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal The Last 52: War of the Multiverses* #1

JANUARY

👉 *Dark Nights: Death Metal* #7

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